

Message Text

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TAGS: SENV, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: BIOSHERE RESERVES
(02.05-41)

1. TEXT OF SOVIET PROPOSAL ON JOINT WORK IN BERING SEA UNDER
BIOSPHERE RESERVES WORKING GROUP FOLLOWS, IN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION.

2. BEGN QUOTE: IN THE MEMORANDUM OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE
JOINT US-USSR COMMITTEE (OCTOBER 1975) IT WAS AGREED THAT BOTH
SIDES WOULD CONSIDER "POSSIBILITIES TO ORGANIZE INVESTIGATIONS ON A
VESSEL IN THE BERRING SEA" WITHIN THE JOINT US-USSR PROJECT
ON BIOSPHERE RESERVES.

3. THIS PAPER CONTAINS PRELIMINARY SUGGESTIONS OF THE SOVIET
SIDE ON PURPOSES, TASKS, DIRECTIONS AND METHODS OF PROPOSED
INVESTIGATIONS, DATES AND THE PROGRAM FOR THE TRIP,
AND SOVIET AND AMERICAN MEMBERSHIP IN THE GROUP.

4. IT IS PRESUMED THAT THE JOINT MARINE EXPEDITION WILL BE CARRIED
OUT ON A SOVIET RESEARCH SHIP BELONGING TO THE HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL
SERVICE. THE SOVIET SIDE AGREES TO DEFRAY EXPENSES FOR A STAY
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ON BOARD OF UP TO TEN AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS. THE EXPEDITION

MATERIALS OBTAINED DURING JOINT RESEARCH WORK WILL BE THE PROPERTY OF BOTH SIDES.

5. A. THE PURPOSE OF THE JOINT EXPEDITION. THE INFLUENCE OF HUMAN ACTIVITY ON THE WORLD OCEAN IS A VITAL PROBLEM FOR MANKIND. THIS IS UNDERLINED BY THE FACT THAT THE MAJORITY OF BIOLOGICAL EARTH RESOURCES IS CONCENTRATED IN THE OCEAN. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT INVESTIGATIONS OF BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS AND ANTHROPOGENIC INFLUENCE ON THE OCEAN WITHIN THE PROJECT ON BIOSPHERE RESERVE ARE OF INTEREST TO THE SOVIET AND AMERICAN SIDES. THE FIRST PRACTICAL STEP BEING TAKEN BY BOTH SIDES COULD BE THIS RESEARCH ON THE BERING SEA, WHICH IS THE ONLY SEA WASHING THE USA AND THE USSR COASTS.

6. THE PURPOSE OF THE JOINT EXPEDITION IS TO STUDY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN THE BERING SEA AREA. OBTAINED RESULTS WILL BE A BASIS FOR DIRECTING RESEARCH ON THESE CHARACTERISTICS IN THE FUTURE.

7. THE BERING SEA AREA IS CHARACTERIZED BY A UNIQUE FLORA AND FAUNA AND IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR FISHERIES. LATELY, IN CONNECTION WITH DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH AREAS THERE HAS ARISEN A REAL THREAT TO ATMOSPHERE, WATER AND BIOTA POLLUTION WITH ANTHROPOGENIC PRODUCTS. OIL SPILLS MAY BE DANGEROUS AS PROCESSES OF NATURAL PURIFICATION OF SEA WATER AT LOW TEMPERATURES ARE SLOWED DOWN.

8. AT PRESENT WE HAVE NO EXPERIENCE IN JOINT RESEARCH OF THIS KIND; OFTEN AMERICAN AND SOVIET SCIENTISTS USE DIFFERENT METHODS IN ANALYZING THE SAME PARAMETERS. MUTUAL INCALIBRATION OF METHODS IS ALSO AMONG THE PROJECTED TASKS OF THE JOINT EXPEDITION.

9. THE AMERICAN SIDE CAN EQUIP ITS PART OF THE EXPEDITION WITH ADVANCED INSTRUMENTS WHICH CAN BE USED FOR AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN PARAMETERS. FOR EXAMPLE, "TECHNICON" FOR DETERMINATION OF BIOGENOUS SUBSTANCES, CHROMATOGRAPHS FOR COMPLEX HYDROCARBON MIXTURES, CARBON MONOXIDE ANALYZER, ETC. THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN FAMILIARIZATION WITH THESE INSTRUMENTS IN REAL CONDITIONS OF OPERATION WITH A VIEW TO BUYING SUCH INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPPING SOVIET RESEARCH SHIPS WITH THEM.

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EXPERIENCE GAINED DURING THE EXPEDITION CAN SERVE AS A BASIS FOR FURTHER JOINT INVESTIGATIONS IN BIOSPHERE RESERVES, ON GLOBAL MONITORING OF ATMOSPHERE CHEMICAL POLLUTION OF WORLD OCEAN WATER.

10. B. RESEARCH PROGRAM. THE SOVIET RESEARCH PROGRAM CONTAINS THREE MAIN SECTIONS:

(B-1) GEOPHYSICAL,

(B-2) HYDROCHEMICAL,

(B-3) HYDROBIOLOGICAL.

11. B-1.1 DETERMINE THE CONTENT OF THE FOLLOWING SUBSTANCES IN NEAR-SURFACE WATER: SULFUR DIOXIDE, NITROGEN DIOXIDE, CARBON MONOXIDE, HYDROCARBON (GASEOUS AND AEROSOL FRACTIONS), HEAVY METALS IN ATMOSPHERIC AEROSOL, BENZOPYRENE IN ATMOSPHERE AEROSOL.

12. B-1.2 ALSO, TO DETERMINE BY SAMPLES IN PRECIPITATION THE CONCENTRATION OF HYDROGEN IONS AND SULFATES.

13. B-1.3 ON THE BOUNDARY SURFACE OF MEDIUMS, TO TAKE SAMPLES OF A SURFACE WATER MICROLAYER FROM A SHIP'S BOAT IN CALM WEATHER: TO TAKE DURING THE TRIP 5-7 SAMPLES. IN SAMPLES OF A SURFACE WATER MICROLAYER TO DETERMINE THE CONTENT OF THE FOLLOWING:

NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL HYDROCARBONS,

BENZOPYRENE, AND

HEAVY METALS.

14. B-2.1 DETERMINATION OF COMPONENTS OF SEA WATER -- NATURAL CHEMICAL COMPOSITION, INCLUDING: SALINITY, OXYGEN, PHOSPHATES, NITRATES, NITRITES, AMMONIA NITROGEN, HYDROGEN ION CONCENTRATION. SAMPLES ARE TO BE TAKEN FROM ALL STANDARD LEVELS: 0, 10, 20, 30, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200 METRES, ETC., TO THE BOTTOM.

15. B-2.2 DETERMINATION OF THE FOLLOWING POLLUTING SUBSTANCES TO UNCLASSIFIED

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BE CONDUCTED ON LEVELS OF 0,10,50,100,500 METRES: DETERGENTS, PHENOLS, CHLORINE HYDROCARBONS, OIL PRODUCTS.

16. B-3 BIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS MUST INCLUDE STUDY OF: PRIMARY PRODUCTS, BACTERIAL POPULATION AND BACTERIAL PROCESSES, PHYTOPLANKTON, ZOOPLANKTON, BENTHOS MICROFAUNA, POLLUTING SUBSTANCES IN BYDROBIANTS (PHYTO- AND ZOOPLANKTON, FISH, ETC.), SEDIMENTATION PROCESSES.

17. B-4 METEOROLOGICAL AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS TO BE COMPLETED BY STAFF.

18. B-5. SUGGESTIONS TO THE AMERICAN SIDE. THE SOVIET SIDE PROPOSES THAT THE AMERICAN SIDE CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF CARRYING OUT OBSERVATIONS, AS GIVEN BELOW, WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF NINE

US SCIENTISTS.

19. B-5.1 TO DETERMINE SULFUR DIOXIDE AND CARBON MONOXIDE IN NEAR-SURFACE WATER BY MEANS OF INSTRUMENTATION. SAMPLES TO BE TAKEN AND ANALYZED FOR HYDROCARBONS OF OIL TYPE IN GASEOUS AND AEROSOL FRACTIONS. SAMPLES TO BE TAKEN FOR HEAVY METALS CONTENT (THREE AMERICAN SPECIALISTS).

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20. B-5.2 DETERMINATION OF BIOGENOUS SUBSTANCES BY MEANS OF "TECHNICON" IN SEA WATER AND IN PRECIPITATION. DETERMINATION OF HEAVY METALS CONTENTS IN SEA WATER AND IN SURFACE-WATER MICROLAYER (TWO AMERICAN SPECIALISTS).

21. B-5.3 ANALYSIS OF OIL-TYPE HYDROCARBONS IN WATER SAMPLES FROM DIFFERENT LEVELS AND IN SURFACE-WATER MICROLAYER (ONE AMERICAN SPECIALIST).

22. B-5.4 STUDY OF VERTICAL DISTRIBUTION AND QUANTITY OF MICROORGANISMS (BACTERIA AND PHYTOPLANKTON) BY THE METHOD OF BIOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS (ATF DETERMINATION). STUDY OF POLLUTING SUBSTANCES CONTENTS IN HYDROBIANTS (THREE AMERICAN SPECIALISTS).

23. C. SUGGESTED ITINERARY OF THE SHIP.

NAKHODKA - BERING SEA (1700 MILE) 5 DAYS

WORK IN BERING SEA 15 DAYS

BERTH IN ONE OF PORTS OF ALASKA OR ALEUTIAN ISLANDS 3 DAYS

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WORK IN BERING SEA 13 DAYS

FROM BERING SEA - USA WEST COAST PORT (1700 MILES) 5 DAYS

BERTH AND DEBARKATION OF AMERICAN SPECIALISTS 3 DAYS

USA - NAKHODKA 4500 MILES 14 DAYS

STORM RESERVE 3 DAYS.

TOTAL 61 DAYS. CALCULATIONS WERE MADE FROM AN AVERAGE SPEED 335 MILES PER DAY.

24. D. DESCRIPTION OF THE SHIP. TO CARRY OUT THIS EXPEDITION A RESEARCH SHIP CAN BE CHOSEN WITH THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS:

- OVERALL LENGTH 101 METRE,
- BREADTH 14 METRE,
- DISPLACEMENT 3700 TON,
- CREW 105 HANDS,
- EXPEDITION 44 PERSONS
- CRUISER SPEED 14 KNOTS,
- LABORATORY HOUSING 150 SQUARE METRES,
- POWER SUPPLY 220 V, 50 HZ.

25. E. COORDINATION OF THE PROGRAM, HANDLING OF RESULTS, DATA EXCHANGE. IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARATION FOR THE EXPEDITION IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO COORDINATE A CONCRETE WORK PROGRAM AND DISCUSS QUESTIONS OF INSTRUMENTS PLACING. THE SOVIET SIDE SUGGESTS A MEETING OF SOVIET AND AMERICAN SPECIALISTS POSSIBLY 3-6 MONTHS BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE EXPEDITION. ALSO A MEETING MIGHT BE ADVISABLE TWO MONTHS AFTER THE END OF THE TRIP TO HANDLE RESULTS AND PREPARE A JOINT ACCOUNT OF THE EXPEDITION. END QUOTE.

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